

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 06329 181050Z

17

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W
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Z 181038Z SEP 75 ZFF-1
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 5701

S E C R E T AMMAN 6329

EXDIS

FOR SISCO AND ATHERTON FROM PICKERING

EMO. 11652 XGDS-3
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, JO, US
SUBJECT: HAWK MISSILES

1. IRFAI JUST CALLED ME WITH SOME CHANGE OF SIGNALS.
HE TALKED WITH KING AFTER OUR CONVERSATION THIS MORNING.

2. HE AND KING HAVE AGREED TO TONE DOWN STATEMENT. THEY WILL
NOT REJECT PRESIDENT FORD'S LETTER TO CONGRESS, BUT RATHER STATE
THAT THEY ARE NOT PREPARED TO SIGN A CONTRACT OR LETTER OF OFFER
WHICH CONTAINS SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THAT TYPE. THEY ALSO SAY
ONLY THAT "THEY CONSIDER WEAPONS WHICH ARE DELIVERED TO JORDAN
AS JORDANIAN WEAPONS". FINALLY THEY ADD LANGUAGE
TO EFFECT THAT DELIVERIES TO BE SATISFACTORY SHOULD BE TIMED TO
COINCIDE WITH TROOP TRAINING AND READINESS. THE FINAL STATEMENT
SAYS IF US NOT READY TO SIGN ON THIS BASIS THEY RELUCTANTLY
WILL HAVE TO GO SOMEWHERE ELSE ON EXACTLY SAME BASIS.

3. WHILE THIS IS CLEARLY NOT ALL WE WOULD DESIRE OR HOPE FOR
IT IS CLEARLY BETTER THAN AN OUTRIGHT REJECTION. WE EXPECT TO HAVE
TEXT IN ARABIC FROM RIFAI SHORTLY AND WILL SEND TRANSLATION.
WE BELIEVE THAT TEXT MAY PROVIDE ENOUGH DAYLIGHT TO ARGUE IT IS
NOT A REJECTION BEFORE THE CONGRESS, BUT MERELY VENTING LOCAL
STEAM VALVES, OVERHEATED THROUGH EXCESS STRAIN.

PICKERING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 18 SEP 1975
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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